IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

C 1700 TRAL BONG In Re the Application of: Group Art Unit: 1711 Examiner: Hampton-Hightower SINCLAIR et al. Serial No.: 09/782,183 AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE Filed: February 12, 2001 Atty. File No.: 4070-46-1-1-2 "EXPRESS MAIL" MAILING LABEL NUMBER: ev190614461us DATE OF DEPOSIT: For: "DEGRADATION CONTROL OF ENVIRONMENTALLY DEGRADABLE DISPOSABLE MATERIALS" SHINGTON, D.C. 40231 TYPED OR PRINTED WAME: KATHLEEN BUSSELI **Assistant Commissioner for Patents** Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

This Amendment and Response is being filed to address the Office Action mailed on May 31, 2002. Enclosed is a petition for a three-month extension of time, extending the time for response from August 31, 2002, to November 30, 2002, and a check in the amount of \$920 as payment of the extension fee. Please credit any overpayment or charge any underpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-1970.

Please amend and reconsider the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 8, 81, 100, 128 and 158 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter thereof.

- The method of Claim 1, wherein said disposable material is 13. (Amended) further degraded by biological degradation.
- (Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein said disposable material is 14. further degraded by microbial degradation.
- The method of Claim 1, wherein said disposable material is 15. (Amended) further biologically degraded to essentially carbon dioxide and water.